AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification to replace the Sequence Listing as originally filed with the Substitute Sequence Listing attached herewith.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 16 as follows.

One embodiment of the invention is a method of inhibiting tumor growth in an animal that includes: selecting an animal in need of treatment for a tumor; providing a monoclonal antibody comprising a heavy chain amino acid, wherein the antibody has an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 1, 5, 9, 13, 17, 21, 25, 29, 33 and 37, and wherein the monoclonal antibody binds MUC18; and contacting the tumor with an effective amount of said antibody, wherein the contacting results in inhibited proliferation of said cells.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 23 as follows.

Another embodiment of the invention is a method of inhibiting cell invasion associated with melanoma by: selecting an animal in need of treatment for melanoma; providing a monoclonal antibody having a heavy chain amino acid, wherein the antibody has an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 1, 5, 9, 13, 17, 21, 25, 29, 33 and 37, and wherein the monoclonal antibody binds MUC18; and contacting the melanoma with an effective amount of the antibody, wherein the contacting results in inhibited cell invasion.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 30 as follows.

Yet another embodiment of the invention is a method of increasing survival of an animal having a metastatic tumor. This method includes: selecting an animal in need of treatment for a metastatic tumor; providing a monoclonal antibody comprising a heavy chain amino acid, wherein the antibody has an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 1, 5, 9, 13, 17, 21, 25, 29, 33 and 37, and wherein the monoclonal antibody binds MUC18; and contacting said animal with an effective amount of the antibody, wherein the contacting results in inhibited metastasis of the tumor resulting in increased survival of the animal.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 10, line 3 as follows.

Figure 28 represents an alignment between the amino acid sequence of the variable region of the heavy chain of anti-MUC18 antibody, c6.12 (SEQ ID NO: 81), and the amino acid sequence encoding the V4-31 region (SEQ ID NO: 65) of the germline V_H gene used. The consensus sequence (SEQ ID NO: 66) is represented below the alignment.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 10, line 7 as follows.

Figure 29 represents an alignment between the amino acid sequence of the variable region of the light chain of anti-MUC18 antibody, c6.12 (SEQ ID NO: 82), and the amino acid sequence encoding the L2 region (SEQ ID NO: 67) of the germline V_k gene used. The consensus sequence (SEQ ID NO: 68) is represented below the alignment.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 11, line 11 as follows.

Figure 36 represents a summary of the sequences comprising the V, D, J and resulting N recombination regions of the MUC18 antibody clones identified in the present invention. The D region sequences for MUC18 antibody clones A15-3.45 (SEQ ID NO: 85), A15-6.1 (SEQ ID NO: 86), A15-6.2 (SEQ ID NO: 87), A15-6.9 (SEQ ID NO: 88), A15-6.11 (SEQ ID NO: 89), and A15-6.12 (SEQ ID NO: 90) are shown.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 32, line 25 as follows.

The primers used for the amplification of the ECD of MUC18 were as follows:

Forward primer: 5'-ATATTACGAATTCACTTGCGTCTCGCCCTCCGG-3' (SEQ ID NO:~~10~~ 83)

Reverse primer: 5'-CAGCTTAGAGCTAGCCGGCTCTCCGGCTCCGGCA-3' (SEQ ID NO:~~11~~ 84)